

We have said, and we repeat, that hydrophobia is one of the rarest of diseases, and that when it appears to be developed, we believe, in the vast majority of cases, to be a simulated disease produced by a morbid imagination. We do not go so far as to assert that it is never caused by the bite of a rabid animal, and therefore we would advise that all proper care should be taken to destroy, without delay, all animals that are affected with rabies. Yet, here again, we must recall the fact that rabies itself is one of the rarest of all the diseases with which dogs and other animals are affected. When we hear the cry of "mad dog!" the chances are millions to one that the dog is not mad; it is the people who are mad with terror. When we read newspaper reports of the appearance of a mad dog here are that the chances are enormously against the truth of the story. Yet there is such a disease as rabies, and since there is no cure for it but death, an animal which is really rabid ought to be killed immediately.

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